



## PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

### Extraordinary Training Opportunity Open to General Public

(Okemos, Michigan) – The Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV) is hosting an extraordinary training on April 6-7, 2006 at the Holiday Inn West in Lansing, Michigan. This event, titled “Understanding Mental Health Issues of Survivors,” will provide in-depth training on how to serve domestic violence and sexual assault survivors with mental health issues.

This training has previously been hosted by MCADSV for a limited audience. For the first time, this training is being opened to all interested parties.

Here is what participants had to say in 2005: “Thank you for bringing such an excellent speaker and teacher [Elizabeth Vermilyea]. Also, thank you for acknowledging the need for this advanced and in-depth level of material for those of us doing this very complex work.” Also, “[Geraldine Crisci] presented a highly sensitive subject in an engaging and relaxed manner. She is a wonderful speaker, her humor and examples were highly effective in maintaining the attention of her audience.”

These acclaimed presenters will provide insight and valuable tools for the best way to meet the unique needs of this underserved population.

**Elizabeth Vermilyea, M.A.**, is the author of Growing Beyond Survival a Self Help Toolkit for Managing Traumatic Stress and has presented on several topics (Trauma and the Effects of Clergy Abuse; Understanding Trauma and Addiction; and Risking Connection: Curriculum for Working with Survivors of Childhood Abuse).

**Geraldine Crisci, M.S.W.**, is a founding member of the Association of Sexual Abuse Prevention and has served as a consultant to the U.S. Federal Government on issues of sexual abuse treatment and prevention. She recently co-authored the treatment manual Paper Dolls and Paper Airplanes: Therapeutic Exercises for Sexually Traumatized Children.

For registration information, please visit [www.mcadsv.org](http://www.mcadsv.org) or use fax on demand by calling (517) 347-1060 from your fax machine. Follow the prompts, and enter Box #7 when directed. For additional assistance, please call Lynn Lucas at (517) 347-7000, ext. 21. The deadline for registration materials is March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006.

MCADSV is a statewide private non-profit organization dedicated to the empowerment of all the state’s survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Its mission is to develop and promote efforts aimed at the elimination of all domestic and sexual violence in Michigan. MCADSV is a statewide membership organization whose members represent a network of 70 domestic violence and sexual assault programs and over 100 allied organizations and individuals.

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